

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9 and 10 are independent. Claims 1-4, 6, 9 and 10 are hereby amended. Claim 5 is hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, and specifically at pages 41-44. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-5 and 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,727,925 to Bourdelais in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,369,835 to Lin.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Bourdelais in view Lin and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,969,716 to Davis.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“A data-providing apparatus...comprising...
first storage means for storing said one or more scenarios and said image data items;
second storage means for storing shared scenarios and shared image data items;
third storage means for temporarily storing edited scenarios and edited image data items...” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicant, U.S. Patent No. 6,727,925 to Bourdelais relates to a system for designing a room using a browser connected to a system remote to the browser. The perspective view of the room is displayed. Specification is accepted of furnishings to be added to the room. Simplified images of the furnishings are displayed in the perspective view of the room. Manipulation of the simplified images of the furnishings is accepted and displayed. The room is rendered with substantially photorealistic perspective images of the furnishings in the perspective view of the room.

As understood by Applicant, U.S. Patent No. 6,369,835 to Lin relates to a method and system for generating a movie file from a slide show presentation created with a presentation program. When the movie file is played back, a movie of the slide show presentation is displayed to a user. Objects in the slide show presentation are identified and automatically transformed into corresponding movie data that is saved in the movie file. The movie data includes visual, e.g., video, and audio samples linked to respective tracks that are referenced to the slide show presentation.

As understood by Applicant, U.S. Patent No. 5,969,716 to Davis relates to processing existing media signals to create new media content by defining content representations for the existing media and establishing functional dependencies between the representations. The content representations constitute different data types which

determine the kinds of operations that can be performed and dependencies that can be established.

Applicant submits that Bourdelais, Lin and Davis, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicant submits that there is no teaching or suggestion of the first, second and third storage means, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claims 9 and 10 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 9 and 10 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

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